

# Star BUSINESS

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## Non-availability of container vessels Frozen foods pile up at Mongla port

BSS, Khulna

More than 140 containers loaded with frozen foods have been piled up at Mongla port due to non-availability of sufficient number of container vessels for their exports.

Leaders of the Frozen Food Exporters Association of Bangladesh in a statement here yesterday said that only 22 container ships had berthed at Mongla port during the last five months of the current fiscal year.

About 750 metric tons of frozen shrimps were exported through

those ships during the period. But, in course of time, more than 140 containers with frozen shrimps have been piled up at the port jetty due to non-availability of container vessels during the current season.

The association leaders urged the government to take immediate measures for solving the problem. "Otherwise, the frozen food exporters will suffer huge losses," they said in their statement.

They also said that LCs from USA, Japan, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, Hong Kong, Vietnam and

Korea were already in their hands for exporting frozen food to those countries. "We have sufficient ready stock of frozen foods but non-availability of container vessels is depriving us of their timely export," they said.

A total of 4,46,20,400 pounds of frozen foods worth Tk 1,016.38 crore was exported through Mongla port during the last fiscal year. Earlier in 1996, the export of frozen foods was seriously affected due to non-availability of container vessels.

## Trust Bank declares stock dividend

The Trust Bank Limited has declared 7:1 stock dividend for its sponsor shareholders for the financial year 2002, says a press release.

The dividend was announced at the bank's 4th annual general meeting held in Dhaka recently.

Lt Gen Hasan Mashhud Chowdhury, chairman of the Board of Directors of the bank and chief of army staff, presided over the meeting.

The Board of Directors approved last year's audited balance sheet of the bank.

Vice-Chairman of the bank Maj Gen Jalaluddin Ahmad and other directors including Managing Director Zahid Hossain Chowdhury attended the meeting.



PHOTO: TRUST BANK LTD

Lt Gen Hasan Mashhud Chowdhury, chairman of the Board of Directors of The Trust Bank Limited and chief of army staff, presides over the 4th annual general meeting of the bank in Dhaka recently.



PHOTO: EMIRATES

Ahmad Al Falasi, area manager-Bangladesh, and Raed Younes, airport services manager of Emirates, pose for a photograph with two recipients of Emirates Mabrouk Silver Awards -- Aziza Chowdhury, customer services officer, and Qazi Javed Karim, senior cargo executive of Emirates -- in Dhaka recently. They were awarded in recognition of their commitment to achievement of the company's goals.

## SEDF to provide Eurasia Food with assistance

SouthAsia Enterprise Development Facility (SEDF) has signed a letter of understanding (LoU) with Eurasia Food Processing (BD) Ltd (EFPL) to provide assistance, says a press release.

Under the LoU, SEDF, an International Finance Corporation facility, will assist EFPL in capacity building so that the company can comply with the standards in respect to ISO-9002 certification and hazard analysis of critical control point (HACCP).

The EFPL is a 100 per cent export-oriented frozen foods and vegetable processing plant, which started production in 2003.

Anil Sinha, general manager, Antonie de Wilde, senior programme manager, Zaki Uz Zaman, project officer, Tajul Islam, senior agribusiness advisor of SEDF and Shelim Hussain, managing director of EFPL, and other officials of the company were present in the signing ceremony.

## ECB cuts key rates by half percentage point

AFP, Frankfurt

The European Central Bank (ECB) cut its key interest rates for the third time in six months on Thursday, cutting half a percentage point off its central "refi" refinancing rate to 2.00

percent from 2.50 percent previously.

The ECB also lowered its other two key rates -- the deposit rate and the marginal lending rate -- by a half-point to 1.00 percent and 3.00 percent respectively.

## CURRENCY

Following is yesterday's forex trading statement by Standard Chartered Bank					
Selling		Currency	Buying		
TT/OD	BC		TT Clean	OD Sight Doc	OD Transfer
58.9300	58.9800	USD	58.0000	57.8296	57.7604
69.3665	69.4254	EUR	66.8508	66.6544	66.5747
96.7748	96.8570	GBP	93.8092	93.5337	93.4217
39.6540	39.6876	AUD	37.8392	37.7281	37.6829
0.5023	0.5027	JPY	0.4863	0.4848	0.4842
45.0122	45.0504	CHF	43.6615	43.5333	43.4812
7.5339	7.5403	SEK	7.3961	7.3743	7.3655
43.5615	43.5985	CAD	42.2802	42.1560	42.1056
7.5640	7.5704	HKD	7.4296	7.4078	7.3989
34.3285	34.3546	SGD	33.4834	33.3851	33.3451
16.1749	16.1886	AED	15.6634	15.6174	15.5987

Exchange rates of some currencies against US dollar

Indian Rupee	Pak Rupee	Lankan Rupee	Thai Baht	Nor Kroner	NZ Dollar	Malaysian Ringit
46.875	57.7	97.24	41.630	6.9414	0.6313	3.80

## SHIPPING

### Chittagong port

Berthing position and performance of vessels as on 5/6/03

Berth No	Name of vessels	Cargo	L. Port call	Local agent	Date of arrival	Leaving	Import disch.
J/1	Bright Moon	TSP (P)	Beihat	Unique	25/5	10/6	57
J/2	Ocean Pride	GI (R Log)	Yang	VSAL	30/5	8/6	1117
J/3	Al Muztuba	Rice/WT(P)	Kaki	KLA	25/5	8/6	X
J/4	Kwan Mo Bong/Sug/Rice(P)	Chann	SSTL	22/5	7/6	167	
J/5	Sonali	Rice/S.Ash	Kand	OWSL	18/5	8/6	70
J/6	Assets Victory	Wheat	Viza	Uniship	19/5	5/6	X
J/7	Myeik	Rice (P)	Yang	Total	26/5	11/6	X
J/8	Pho Thae	Rice (P)	Kaki	Able	20/5	8/6	131
J/9	Al Mansoor	Rice	Kaki	Total	8/5	8/6	33
J/10	*Jat Na Mu	Wheat	Viza	Uniship	R/A	5/6	201
J/11	*Kota Singa	Cont	Sing	Pil (BD)	31/5	5/6	X
J/12	Express Resolve	Cont	Col	Everbest	30/5	5/6	X
J/13	QC Lark	Cont	P Kel	QC SL	29/5	6/6	X
CC/1	Xpress Manaslu	Cont	P Kel	RSL	29/5	6/6	7/X
CC/2	Banga Borti	Cont	P Kel	BDSHIP	31/5	7/6	267/204

Vessels due at outer anchorage

Name of vessels	Date of arrival	L. Port call	Local agent	Cargo	Loading port
Sea Breeze	5/6	Hald	Seacom	GI	
Maritime Faith	5/6	Taiw	NW SL	Clink	
Feng Shun Shan (Liner)	6/6	Osaka	Bdship	GI	
Banga Barta	8/6	Chenn	Baridhi	Cont	Col
Banga Borat	8/6	--	Bdship	Cont	Sing
Madura Ayu	8/6	Indo	OTBLFor Demolition		
Theopisiti	8/6	Fuja	OTBLFor Demolition		
Hellin	11/6	Sing	TMML	GI	--



PHOTO: FICCI

President of Foreign Investors' Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) Waliur Rahman Bhuiyan (5th from right) presents a chamber crest to Minister for Health and Family Welfare Khondkar Mosharrif Hossain (5th from left) at the latter's office in Dhaka on Wednesday when an FICCI delegation called on the minister to congratulate him on his recent election as the president of World Health Assembly. Vice-president of the chamber M Nurul Islam, Convenor of the chamber's Pharma Sub-committee NS Zahedee and FICCI Secretary Jahangir Bin Alam were present.

## STOCK